Statement

State-wise details of exploratory efforts made by ONGC/OIL/private/joint venture companies

State/Area	2D	3D	Exploratory Wells
Assam & Andhra Pradesh	8619.22	3160.96	132
Gujarat	2863	3032	159
Himachal Pradesh	845	—	1
Madhya Pradesh	299	—	1
Mizoram	150	2	—
Rajasthan	9772	2046	66
Tamil Nadu	1319	1335	51
Tripura	725	22	13
Uttar Pradesh	2859.5	1014.5	—
West Bengal	—	147	1
Orissa	923.68	—	—
TOTAL	28375.4	10759.46	424

Supply of Diesel to Pakistan

t199. SHRIMATI SAVITASHARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to supply diesel to Pakistan at cheaper rate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the logic of providing diesel to Pakistan on low rates while prices of diesel in India are high and there is an indication of likely increase in the prices of diesel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) The Pakistan State Oil Company had requested Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. to submit an indicative price for supply

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of diesel on delivered basis at Lahore, Jhelum & Karachi. Indian Oil Corporation have submitted a non-binding offer for the supply of 3,25,000 MT of diesel during the period October 2005 to March, 2006. The prices offered by IOCL are on the basis of international quotes and commercial considerations. However, the export could materialize only if diesel is removed from the negative list of importable items from India into Pakistan.

Draft order on Oil refinery output

200. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had drafted an order stating that seven percent of oil refinery output should be kerosene,

(b) whether it is a fact that Law Ministry has not agreed with this order, and;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Although current refinery capacity is sufficient to meet the domestic demand of PDS kerosene, Oil marketing companies who are distributing PDS Kerosene had represented to Government that owing to non-availability of adequate quantities of kerosene from domestic refineries they have to import kerosene at higher prices, whereas some of the stand-alone refineries were exporting jet kerosene/aviation turbine fuel which is equivalent to PDS kerosene product. Considering that nonavailability of kerosene may assume significant proportions, it became essential that Government take pro-active action. Accordingly, a proposal to direct refineries to produce a minimum amount of kerosene has been examined. The Department of Legal Affairs has confirmed the powers of the Central Government to issue such an order under the Essential Commodities Act. In the meantime, Oil marketing companies have been advised to discuss the availability of kerosene with various refineries to meet domestic demand.

Losses suffered by IOC

201. SHRI R.K. ANAND**:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IOC has suffered a loss of Rs. 4900 crores in